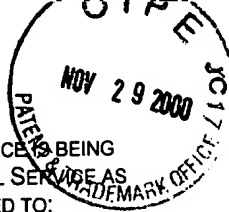


1732



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS
FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO:
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ON THIS 27 DAY OF November, 2000.

BY Richard M. Beck

1998/G 004 (5587*264)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

.....
STEFAN DISCH ET AL :

SERIAL NO: 09/647,743 : ART UNIT: 1732

FILED: OCTOBER 4, 2000 : EXAMINER:

FOR: POLYOXYMETHYLENE MOULDING :
MATERIAL WITH IMPROVED :
PROCESSING STABILITY AND A :
REDUCED EMISSIONS TENDENCY :
.....

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED
TO 1103 MAIL ROOM

**TRANSMITTAL OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT (ENGLISH TRANSLATION)**

Applicant provides an English translation of the International Preliminary
Examination Report.

If any extension or other fee is required in connection with this submission, please
charge Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

Respectfully submitted,

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

By Richard M. Beck

Richard M. Beck
Reg. No. 22,580
Tele. (302) 658-9141
1220 Market Street
Wilmington, DE 19899

RMB/alh

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT
NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 72.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

TICONA GMBH
 Patent- und Lizenzabteilung
 Lyoner Strasse 38
 D-60528 Frankfurt am Main
 ALLEMAGNE

| | |
|--|--|
| Date of mailing (day/month/year) 02 October 2000 (02.10.00) | IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION |
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 1998/GOO4 PCT | |
| International application No. PCT/EP99/02280 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01 April 1999 (01.04.99) |
| Applicant TICONA GMBH et al | |

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.

The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation made by the International Bureau of the international preliminary examination report established by the International Preliminary Examining Authority.

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following elected Offices requiring such translation:

AU,BR,CA,CN,JP,KP,KR,NZ,PL,US

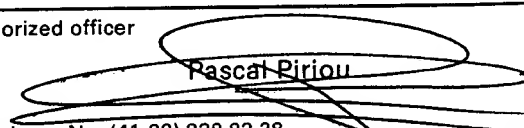
The following elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AP,EA,EP,AE,AL,AM,AZ,BA,BB,BG,BY,CU,CZ,EE,GD,GE,HR,HU,ID,IL,IN,IS,KG,KZ,LC,LK,LR,LT,LV,MD,MG,MK,MN,MX,NO,RO,RU,SG,SI,SK,SL,TJ,TM,TR,TT,UA,UZ,VN,YU,ZA,OA

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report.

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

| | |
|--|---|
| The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No. (41-22) 740.14.35 | Authorized officer  Telephone No. (41-22) 338.83.38 |
|--|---|

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference 1998/GOO4 PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/EP99/02280 | International filing date (day/month/year) 01 April 1999 (01.04.99) | Priority date (day/month/year) 08 April 1998 (08.04.98) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C08G 2/18, 65/08, 65/10, 4/00 | | |
| Applicant TICONA GMBH | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. | |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). |
| These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets. | |
| 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: | |
| I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basis of the report |
| II <input type="checkbox"/> | Priority |
| III <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| IV <input type="checkbox"/> | Lack of unity of invention |
| V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| VI <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain documents cited |
| VII <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain defects in the international application |
| VIII <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain observations on the international application |

| | |
|--|--|
| Date of submission of the demand 04 October 1999 (04.10.99) | Date of completion of this report 08 June 2000 (08.06.2000) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP99/02280

I. Basis of the report

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.)*:

☒ the international application as originally filed.

☒ the description, pages 1-12, as originally filed,
pages _____, filed with the demand,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____,
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☒ the claims, Nos. 1-10, as originally filed,
Nos. _____, as amended under Article 19,
Nos. _____, filed with the demand,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____,
Nos. _____, filed with the letter of _____.

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____, as originally filed,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the demand,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____,
sheets/fig _____, filed with the letter of _____.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/EP 99/02280

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-10 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-10 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-10 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations**1. The search report cites the following documents:**

D1: EP-A-0 010 751 (HOECHST AG), 14 May 1980

D2: DE-A-21 01 817 (HOECHST AG), 5 April 1973

D3: DE-A-20 48 937 (BASF AG), 13 April 1972.

2. Example 1 of D1 and Examples 8-12 of D2 disclose a linear copolymer composed of 96 wt. % trioxane and 4 wt. % dioxolane. The proportion of oxyethylene units in the structural units of the polymer chain therefore equals 1.6. DE-A-20 48 937 also discloses linear copolymers composed of 90-99.9 wt. % trioxane and 0.1-10 wt. % dioxolane. Consequently, the claimed subject matter does not appear to be novel.